



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

17 August 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 14, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Sarasota to northern Collier Counties. In Sarasota County, patchy low impacts are possible today through Monday. In Charlotte, Lee and northern Collier Counties, patchy very low impacts are possible through Monday. Reports of dead fish and discolored water are possible.

Analysis

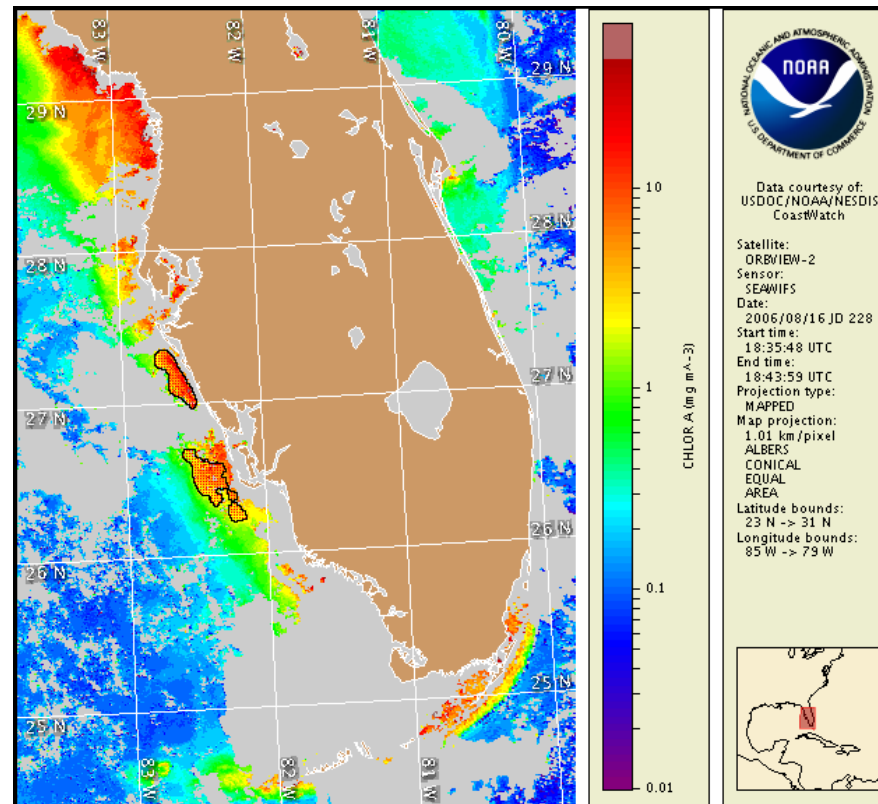
The harmful algal bloom persists from northern Sarasota to northern Collier Counties. Recent samples indicate no presence of *K. brevis* alongshore of northern Collier County (Collier; 8/16). The band of chlorophyll has decreased overall in northern Collier ($<4 \mu\text{g/L}$) since the last bulletin. North of Collier, a band of high chlorophyll persists up to 13 miles off the coast, with increased concentrations generally from $5\text{--}10 \mu\text{g/L}$ since the last bulletin. The northern extent may be offshore of the Tampa Bay entrance ($10 \mu\text{g}$; $82^\circ 49' 2''\text{N}$; $27^\circ 32' 22''\text{W}$). *Rhizosolenia* blooms have been noted at Charlotte and Collier Counties (FWRI; 8/15). Discolored water has been reported in Old Tampa Bay (FWRI; 8/14). Offshore sampling is recommended.

Generally consistent offshore winds today through Monday will minimize impacts alongshore. Maintenance of the bloom's location at the coast is expected with the likelihood of continued slight northward transport.

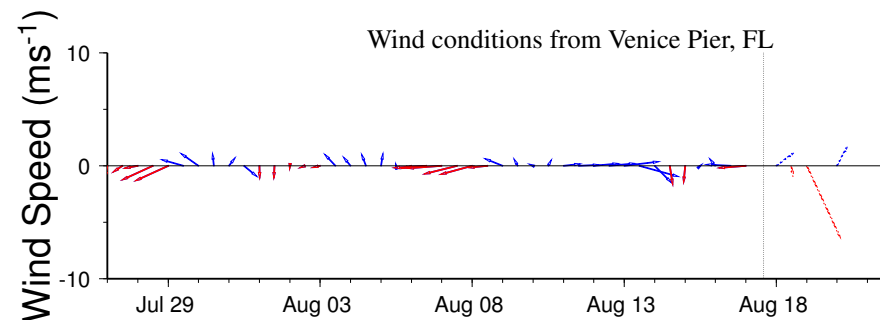
~ Fenstermacher, Keller

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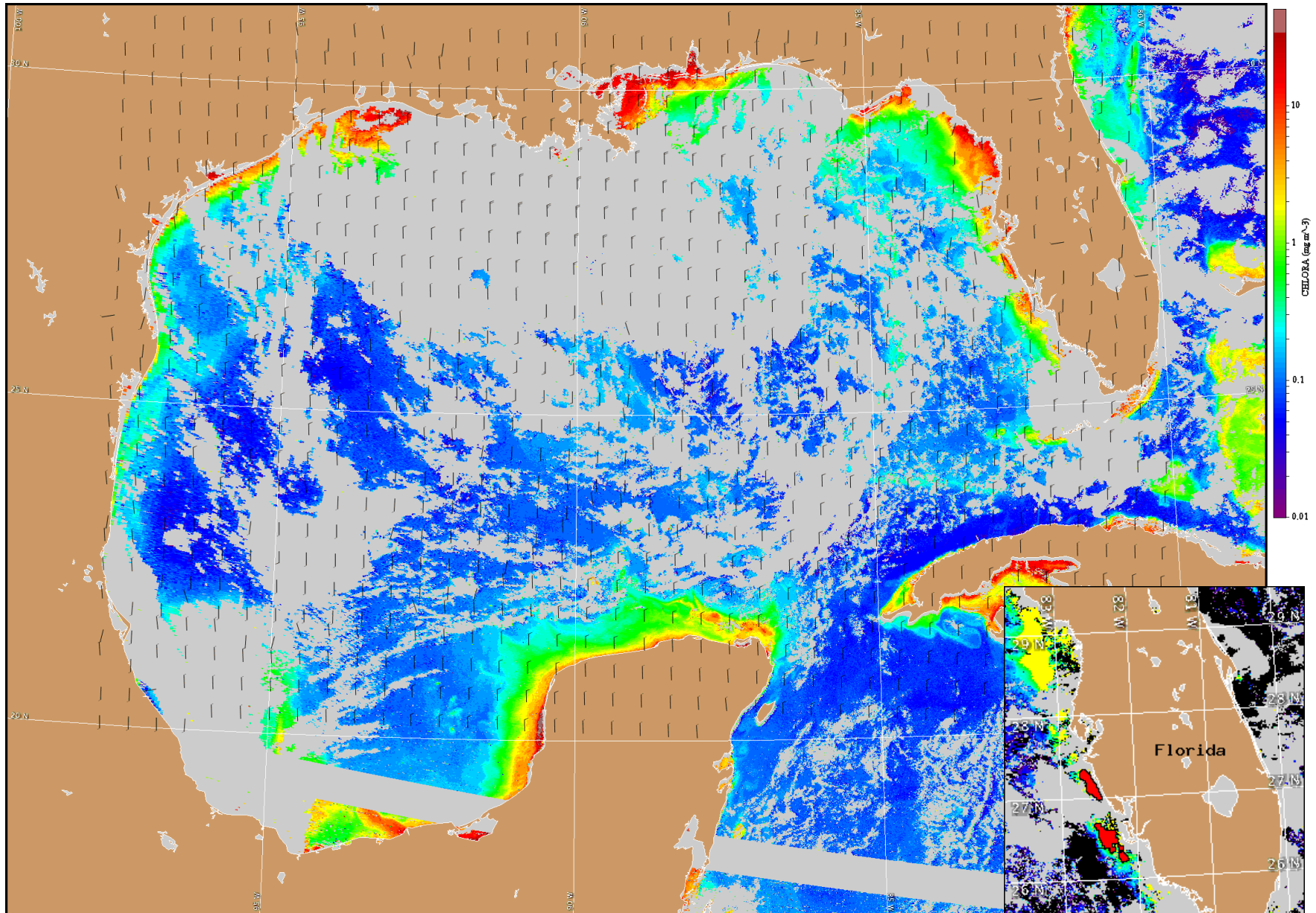
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida, Sarasota County: Southeasterlies to easterlies today through Friday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Variable, offshore winds on Saturday followed by southeasterlies on Sunday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s)

SW Florida, Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties: Southeasterlies to easterlies today through Monday (10 knots; 5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 18, 2006 06Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL

